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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

CHINESE ARTICLE ON PUBLIC SECURITY ADVOCATES
CULTIVATING THE HABIT OF PROTECTING STATE SECRETS

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The strict protection of state secrets is a concrete expression of love of the fatherland by every revolutionist cadre, soldier, worker, farmer, and citizen. In the Instructions on Protecting State Secrets issued last spring, the Central People's Government declared: "The people of China are now resolutely engaged in a struggle against imperialism, feudalism, and bureaucratic capitalism, and are undertaking the difficult task of reconstruction; but domestic and foreign enemies are still trying every possible means to spy on us and to attack us. To keep our country from being undermined and destroyed, government workers on all levels should consider it their duty to protect state secrets."

In his inauguration speech at the first session of the People's Political Consultative Conference, Chairman Mao advised us that "the imperialists and the domestic and foreign reactionary elements never admit defeat; they struggle to the last. Even when we have achieved stability throughout the nation, they will employ various methods to sabotage and destroy us. It cannot be doubted that they are planning every day and every hour to restore their power. We must be alert."

All patriotic citizens must realize the present situation; we must remember Chairman Mao's advice, increase our alertness, and carefully protect our state secrets from the enemy.

II. WHAT ARE STATE SECRETS ?

State secrets include many types of information, the essential types of which are as follows:

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A. Military Secrets

Troop movements; plans for bandit suppression; troop training plans; strength of armed forces; types of forces; materiel; arms production; supply and communications systems; names, characteristics, and stations of high military officers; and, particularly, information about our air force, anti-aircraft equipment, navy, and coastal defense facilities.

B. Political Information

Policies and regulations of government agencies which either are in the planning stage or have not yet been published; information about foreign policies which should not or cannot be made public; and the internal structure of all government agencies are all political information.

C. Economic and Financial Information

This includes economic and financial policies which are either in the planning stage or should not be made public; information about foreign trade, customs, transport plans, production plans of state enterprises; and, particularly, conditions of factories and mines, management of employees and workers, and cooperative purchase and sales plans.

D. Educational and Cultural Information

Educational and cultural policies and regulations which have not been published by the government are state secrets.

III. HOW TO PROTECT STATE SECRETS

To protect state secrets, we must firmly oppose the improper attitude which is characterized by self-satisfaction and underestimation of the enemy. We must also oppose the former security system in the rural areas, which we failed to reform because our attitude was wrong. As a result of this attitude and the imperfection of the system itself, secrets have leaked out in some areas. Some cases were so serious that they caused irreparable damage to the nation and the people. State secrets have leaked out in two ways: in a majority of the cases, people unintentionally disclosed secrets or lost documents; other cases involved planned theft and eavesdropping by the enemy. We will punish the latter cases severely. We will also take disciplinary action toward those who gave away secrets unintentionally because they are in fact giving aid to the enemy by being careless. Such disciplinary action will teach them to be more alert, to be conscious of their responsibility, and to realize the importance of protecting state secrets.

In practice we should protect state secrets in two ways:

First, leaders of governmental and popular organizations on all levels and of all departments, such as defense, education, culture, finance, economics, communications, postal service, factories, mines, etc., should establish security systems in their respective organizations. The leading officials in each organization should repeatedly and thoroughly explain to all employees the meaning of the security system and point out the undesirable tendencies in their own organizations -- especially to employees of the general services, couriers, and nurses. Periodic as well as unscheduled inspections should be made. Leaders should consider protection of state secrets as part of their leadership responsibilities. They should praise those who show a deep sense of responsibility, criticize those who do not observe the regulations, and take prompt action against those who expose secrets.

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Second, all people who are engaged in general administration, military service, financial and economic administration, educational and cultural work, and all workers, employees, and patriotic citizens should cultivate the habit of protecting state secrets in daily life under all circumstances.

Soldiers should preserve the security of all documents. They should not discuss army secrets publicly, nor ask anything they are not entitled to know; they should exercise particular caution in speech and correspondence with family and friends outside the army. They should live as people's revolutionists and never disclose state secrets even if captured by the enemy and confronted with temptation or threats of death.

Government workers in all agencies, especially those in confidential jobs, stenographers, typists, organization heads, and guards, should carry on their work according to established routine. Official documents, telegrams, materials, files, and references should be kept carefully. Intraoffice correspondence involving secrets should not go by mail. Persons traveling with documents should go directly to their destinations; avoiding diversions, pleasure seeking, or shopping in the course of the trip. Government workers should not ask anything they are not supposed to know, and should not discuss things they do know.

Workers and employees in financial and economic departments and in factories and mines should be careful not to disclose secrets in the course of their business transactions. They should not disclose any secret information to friends and relatives.

Workers in educational and cultural institutions must take great care with reports and publications to see that secret information does not slip out.

Patriotic citizens must not ask their friends or relatives who work in the government to discuss official matters. If one learns a secret accidentally, he should not tell others but should warn or criticize the person from whom the secret is obtained or report to his supervisor. People on the strategic frontier, in bandit-suppression areas, and in mines and factories should exercise great care. They should not discuss their own establishments. If any unauthorized person should ask them for information, they should report him to the local security agency for prompt action.

Protection of state secrets is the solemn duty of every citizen. All patriotic citizens should cultivate the habit of protecting state secrets. People should encourage one another to eliminate the possibility that secrets might leak out to the enemy.

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